



Climate change and primary health care intervention framework

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Abstract:

Climate change has been described as the issue of our times. The World Health Organization argues that it will result in both beneficial and harmful effects for human populations and that the harms are likely to outweigh the benefits. Climate scientists can sketch an outline of the probable changes by country, and even region within a country. The effect of climate change on communities is much harder to predict. However, it can be argued with some confidence that the effects will be unequally distributed across communities and that the ways in which communities respond will make a substantial difference to their wellbeing. This paper uses the predictions for climate change in Victoria, Australia, as the background to a discussion of primary health care principles and how they might translate into coping, adaptation and mitigation activities within the primary health care sector. The major primary health care agencies are linked to one another through Primary Care Partnership structures and processes, which provide a foundation for sector-wide responses to climate change. The concept of a storyline, a brief scenario capturing the logic of changes and potential responses, is used to link evidence of climate change effects on communities and individuals to potential responses by primary health care agencies.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/py09041>

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Air Pollution: Allergens, Ozone

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Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Wildfires

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution

Temperature: Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: 

resource focuses on specific type of geography

General Geographical Feature

Geographic Location: 

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Campylobacteriosis, General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Salmonellosis

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: Dengue, Ross River Virus

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Other Mental Disorder

Respiratory Effect: Asthma, Upper Respiratory Allergy

Medical Community Engagement: 

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change


A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status

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Other Vulnerable Population: Pre-existing medical conditions; Poor housing quality

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Resilience: 

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified